

SPORTS

Hot winter to athletes

The current cold winter is hot for the athletes. While only recently this was an off-season, so to speak, now there is a great deal of various tournaments. In the nearest future Soviet athletes will compete in Japan, Tunisia, the USA, and hold a match with hosts in Italy, but the main start

in January will surely be the 1st World Athletic Indoor Games in Paris on January 18-19. The Soviet team for that meet will be led by the athlete of the year, 21-year-old pole-vaulter Sergei Bubka. Specialists think that in this season he will be able to conquer the fantastical

6-metre mark.

Also taking part will be 800 m Olympic winner Nadezhda Orlinskaya, high-jumper Valery Serebrennikov, Olga Turchak, noted sprinter Yevgeny Yevgenyev, middle-distance runner Nataliya Artyomova and top Soviet shot-putters Natalya Lisavskaya and Janis Bojars, and others. Most of them are among pretenders in victory.

Now for Goteborg

(Continued from page 1)

Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarev. The fact that the latter was the Moscow tournament was taken as a sensation. But this duo won again at the national championship, despite several top marks their rivals got for artistic impression in their free composition. The winners' showing confirmed the opinion of many-time world champion Brian Borman Ford expressed at the Moscow tournament that their dancing shows extreme mutual understanding, the highest techniques, and the purity of skating and choreography. Now the most exciting dual of these leading duos of the nation will be continued in Goteborg in the

European championship in early February.

World silver medalist Anna Kondrasheva won her first national singles title, beating 1984 Olympics bronze winner Kira Ivanova.

The men's winner, and also for the first time, was Vladimir Kotin, who showed in Dnepropetrovsk his best skating of the past few years. The European champion Alexander Fadeyev, who was behind after the short programme, dropped out because of injury, and Vitaly Yegorov placed second.

In the next few days the preadmission of the USSR Figure Skating Federation will approve the composition of the national team for participation in the European championship.



Anna Kondrasheva.

Photo by Andrei Knyazev

In whose hands is the fate of the Brazilian team?

The fate of the Brazilian football team is in the hands of the prince of Saudi Arabia. This was told to journalists at a press conference in Rio de Janeiro by FIFA president Brazilian Joao Havelange.

He sent a telegram to Prince Faisal, who is also president of the football federation of Saudi Arabia, with a request to help return coach Tele Santana to Brazilian national team.

As was already reported, the Brazilian football confederation decided to again appoint Santana the national team's coach (he held it at the 1982 championship). But Santana is now in Saudi Arabia and coaches one of the clubs there. His contract expires only in the spring of 1985 and the club leadership has refused to let him go.

The Brazilian team, which now has not a coach, over the

past two years had two coaches, and both Parreira and Adu failed to make a team of it capable of fighting for the highest places in big international events. It lost both the South American championship and the cup of the 80th anniversary of the Brazilian football confederation.

Havelange asked Prince Faisal to break the contract of Santana until February 1. It is then that the preparation of the Brazilian team for the elimination games of the 1986 world championship. He said Havelange, need the experience and technical mastery of Santana.

Vladimir McMILLIN

Over 300 people aged between two and 61 from Moscow, the Moscow and Bryansk regions, and Tallinn took part in the traditional winter holiday — "Intuition into water".

One hundred people, having gone through the traditional rite — the icy bath — joined the club of watermen.

Photo by Sergei Prakhov

IS THERE ANY LIMIT TO RECORDS?

The new world record of the 23-year-old cyclist Erika Salomäe of Tallinn who rode the distance of five kilometers in 1 min 39.56 sec has become a decoration of the annual international Aerobik competition contested by athletes from Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France and the USSR at the start of the season in the Khabarovsk Olympic Cycling Track in Moscow.

In all out of the seven items on the program of the competition the leaders have been the hosts who in the main were represented by young athletes.

The performance of two of his pupils in the Aerobik events has been in the liking of the

Cold is no hindrance

Unusually cold weather is being experienced in Western Europe where the World Alpine Skiing championship is going on in stages. However, this does not mar the excitement of the struggle for the Crystal Globe. Among the men the pace is set by Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland and Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, who unexpectedly was leader in the past season and has also confirmed high-class performance this year, breaking down their necks is versatile Andreas Wenzel of Liechtenstein who once won the much coveted trophy. The three skiers have 179, 165 and 152 points respectively. The rest are trailing far behind.

The race among women at the last stages is dictated by Olympic champion Michela Figini of Switzerland. Having won the super-giant slalom in Plarout, West Germany she stands at the head of the race with 165 points, leaving far behind the recent leader of the women's Martina Koch (West Germany) and Brigitte Oerli (Switzerland), both of whom have 145 points.

Supreme in the Cup's standings are the Swiss skiers who

three-time Olympic and six-time world champion 39-year-old Daniel Morelon of France.

Morelon has been in Moscow before and on several occasions took his training sessions. The cycling track of which he is a high opinion. Riding at 20 tasks, he says, sprinter at the last 200 metres, show his best results of up to 8.8 seconds. However, even though the growth in athletic achievements has been put on scientific basis, something was lacking in my time, there is a limit to increases in speed on the track. I think that a split of the future will be able to hit 200 metres nine seconds less than now only in a hundred or so years.

seem to be unchallenged leads with 1,112 points. They are ahead of their Austrian rivals up who are clinging to 6 points.

Singer as a sponsor of motor race

Michael Jackson, who is, perhaps, the most well-known star in America today, has decided to sponsor two races, Grand Prix Monaco, and Grand Prix Long Beach, which will this year enter for the 24-hour race at Le Mans.

A singer who sponsors a motor race is something unusual. As it turns out the reason is simple. The owner of the team, John Bonham, the only one who won the Le Mans race 1980 driving a car of his own design, has made a deal with Jackson. He needs the money to sponsor two races, Grand Prix Monaco, and Grand Prix Long Beach, which will this year enter for the 24-hour race at Le Mans.

Boris MIKHAILOV

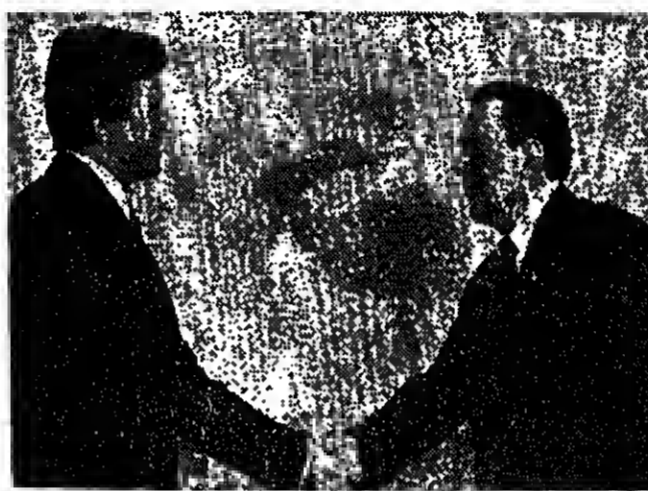


Photo by Sergei Prakhov

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Gromyko, Hart hold discussions



The Soviet leadership proceeds from the premise that there can be no other sensible basis for relations between the Soviet Union and the United States than that of equality, taking into account each other's legitimate interests without any detriment to other countries, stressed Andrei Gromyko during discussions he held in the Kremlin with prominent American politician, Senator Gary Hart. The latter is currently visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Parliamentary group.

In the present conditions the most urgent task is to find practical ways of curbing the arms

race and preventing it from spilling into outer space. Nothing in this respect the importance of the recent agreement reached in Geneva on the subject and purposes of the Soviet-American talks on mutually-linked issues of space and nuclear weapons. Andrei Gromyko stated that the Soviet Union will act constructively for the purpose of reaching agreements based on the principle of equality and equal security.

Gary Hart, on his part, said he favoured reduced tensions to relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, achievement of specific results at the forthcoming Soviet-American talks and improvements in relations between the two countries.

● A handshake before the discussions.

India appreciates results of Soviet-American meeting in Geneva

New Delhi. The Indian President, Zail Singh, has welcomed the results of the Soviet-American meeting in Geneva. He hopes that the forthcoming negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States on nuclear and space weapons will lead to the adoption of far-reaching disarmament measures, he said. He was speaking at a joint meeting of both houses of parliament on the country's foreign and domestic policies. He noted in particular that India, being a non-aligned country, will, together with other countries, actively fight for curbing the arms race, relaxation of international tensions, the settlement of interstate conflicts and of the establishment of a just and stable order throughout the world. The main threat to peace, he said, lies in the danger of an outbreak of nuclear war, he stated out.

Mr Singh expressed serious concern over the continuing American presence in the Indian Ocean. Militarization of this area increases tensions, and creates crisis situations in the region, he declared. India has intentions to convert the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace so that the states in the area could use their resources for the development of peaceful economic development. The Indian President condemned the mass murders of modern American soldiers in Pakistan. The appearance of the most up-to-date nuclear weapons in the vicinity of our borders is a great concern in India,

In memory of Warsaw's liberation

Warsaw. A monument to the T. Kosciuszko First Polish Division which, together with the Soviet Army, took part in the liberation of the Polish capital, has been unveiled here to mark the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Warsaw from fascist invaders.

Attending the ceremony were Wojciech Jaruzelski and other Polish leaders, as well as war veterans, Polish army officers and representatives of the working people.

Present was a delegation of the CPSU Moscow City Committee led by V. Gribbe, Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the CPSU Moscow City

Committee. There were also delegations from the capitals of internal countries.

Warsaw President, M. Dembicki, stated the monument symbolized the unbreakable alliance of Poland and the USSR, the Polish-Soviet brotherhood in arms born during the years of joint struggle against fascism.

Chairman of the State Council of Poland, Henryk Jablonski, awarded V. Gribbe the Order of Merit of the Polish People's Republic First Class for his great services in developing relations between Poland and the USSR, and for strengthening fraternal links and all-round cooperation between Warsaw and Moscow.



A scene from the ballet "The Knight of the Sad Countenance". Don Quixote — Yuri Vlasov, Sancho Panza — Mikhail Mincev.

PREMIERE AT THE BOLSHOI

The first premiere of the 1985 season at the Bolshoi is the one-act ballet "The Knight of the Sad Countenance", based on music from the scenic variations of Richard Strauss. It was staged by Andrei Petrov, a young choreographer who nevertheless has several productions to his credit.

Why has the Bolshoi decided to again take up Cervantes, notwithstanding the fact that the Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko company in Moscow is still staging Minkus' ballet "Don Quixote"?

The main attention in our ballet is devoted to Don Quixote himself and to his faithful servant Sancho Panza. Says the

choreographer. We concentrate on his fate and on his striking ability to fight for noble ideas in spite of vicissitudes. Don Quixote is danced by Yuri Vlasov, Sancho Panza by Mikhail Mincev.

At the end of last season, Andrei Petrov produced the ballet "Sketches" to music by the Soviet composer Alfred Schnittke. This is a choreographic fantasy on themes from the works of Russian and world literature (Nikolai Gogol). The production has been a great success. Together with "The Knight of the Sad Countenance", it constitutes a new programme of one-act ballets.



DAYS OF BUDAPEST IN MOSCOW

Moscow will celebrate Days of Budapest between January 21 and 28. Forty years ago, on January 18, 1945, the Soviet Army freed Pest, the eastern part of our capital from Nazi invaders. Ferenc Pusztai, the head of a delegation from the Hungarian capital, said at a press conference. In two months' time, Buda was also liberated. In the very first days, our Soviet friends helped us restore the ruined bridge on the Danube. Since then close friendly ties have existed between Budapest and Moscow. Today, life for us is inconceivable without a comprehensive political, economic, and cultural cooperation.

To celebrate the Days, more than 350 young people are coming by the Friendship Train from Budapest to the Soviet capital. They are industrial and office workers representing twenty industries similar to those in Moscow.

As part of the Days, an exhibition, "Budapest 1945-1985", is to be mounted at the Central Exhibition Hall, along with a fashion show and a film festival in the Budapesti, Moskovskaya and Planeta cinema. For the whole week the best palaces of culture will offer stages to Hungarian actors, and the gala-concert will feature Moscow performers as well. The Days' programme will be broadcast on radio and shown on television.

CMEA ADOPTS COOPERATION PROGRAMME

The Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance has held its 113rd meeting in Moscow to discuss a number of problems. Among other things, a communiqué issued by the delegates at the end of the meeting stated:

The CMEA Executive Committee has approved the idea of a long-term development of the electric power industry as part of the United Energy System (UES) of CMEA member-countries from now until the year 2000. The Committee envisages further improvements in the

(Continued on page 2)



Dulcinea — Nina Semizorova.



A scene from the ballet "Sketches". Ferdinand VIII — Andrei Melentyev. Photo by Georgi Bolotov

Success for new Grandmaster

Gennady Zaitchik from Tallinn, who was awarded the title of International Grandmaster at a recent FIDE congress in Salonika.

Greece, won an International tournament in Czechoslovakia with 6.5 points from nine games.

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Will Belgium take cruise?

Brussels. The Belgian Prime Minister, Wilfried Martens, who has just returned from a visit to the United States, said at a press conference here that during the talks in the White House he mainly discussed the state of East-West relations in the light of the recent meeting in Geneva between the Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, and the American Secretary of State, George Shultz, and the implementation of NATO's 1979 "two-track" decision. Mr. Martens specifically noted that the results of the recent Geneva talks constitute a positive step towards disarmament negotiations.

He said his government's compliance with NATO's "two-track" decision will depend on the outcome of the Soviet-American disarmament talks. For this purpose, he continued, the government will take a decision before the end of March on whether or not to deploy the American missiles in the country. However, the date for the actual appearance of the missiles in Belgium will be decided only upon consultations with the NATO allies and with NATO as a whole.

The Belgian Prime Minister noted that this new position taken by his government was clearly underlined on the eve of his visit to the United States.

Situation still tense in Lebanon

Beirut. The Lebanese authorities are taking measures to stabilize the situation in the country and to solve major domestic political problems. At its recent meeting, the Council of Ministers took a number of decisions to improve security in the capital and in other areas of the country. The government has ordered that the warring factions based in their heavy weapons and that all the remaining barriers along the Green Line

dividing Beirut into two sectors be removed.

In the Southern Lebanon resistance to the Israeli occupation forces is growing. In the vicinity of Hasbaya and Bint Jubail, some motor patrols of the invaders hit mines planted by guerrillas. In the area of Salda, a group of resistance fighters attacked a column of Israeli army vehicles, destroying two armoured personnel carriers and killing several Israeli soldiers.

HARPOON MISSILES FOR PAKISTAN

New Delhi. The USA is to speed up delivery of its ship-launched Harpoon cruise missiles to Pakistan. According to the "Times of India" newspaper, this was revealed by Zia ul-Haq to journalists in Karachi. The newspaper states that the revision of the delivery schedule followed a trip by the US Chief of Naval Operations, James Watkins, to Islamabad, where he held talks with Pakistani generals on missiles.

to the regime of the latest American arms.

At present Pakistan receives from the USA tanks, helicopters, artillery guns, various missiles and F-16 fighter-bombers.

The pivot of the US-Pakistan military-political alliance, the "Patriot" newspaper stresses in this respect, is the safeguarding of interests of US imperialism in South and South-West Asia, as well as in the Indian Ocean basin.



Showing his hand.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

Conference in Ho Chi Minh City

Ho Chi Minh City. Foreign Ministers of three Indochinese countries are holding a conference here. Attending are Hun Sen, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea (PRK); Phoume Siphar, Member of the Politbureau of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers (LPDR); Nguyen Co Thach, Alternate Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Foreign Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV).

Opening the conference, Nguyen Co Thach noted that over the past few months, the situation in South-East Asia had undergone changes favouring the cause of national development and consolidation of the national defence in the three countries. Despite the intrigues of the forces of imperialism and reaction, the Kampuchean revolution continued confidently to gather strength, which had facilitated a partial withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer troops from the PRK. This will also make it possible in the future to take further steps in this direction. All this, Nguyen Co Thach said, creates favourable conditions for a patient settlement of the problems of peace and stability in the region.

In memory of G. A. Nasser

Cairo. The public is joyfully celebrating the anniversary of the death of the Egyptian leader, Gamal Abdel Nasser. A mass rally with participants of the National Progressive Unionist Party, as well as other parties has been held in Cairo. Gatherings and rallies addressed by political and public leaders held in other places.

The press here notes the contribution which the Egyptian President made to the cause of extricating the economy from foreign domination and improving living standards of the masses.

Sino-US military cooperation stepped up

Washington. Commenting on a tip to Peking by G. I. Vassary, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the press reports that a preliminary agreement was reached between the USA and the PRC, which will include joint exercises for ships, aircraft, and quick-response units in the Pacific.

It is expected that the deal will be officially concluded during a visit to Peking by Assistant Secretary of State M. Palsley, in the near future.

The press stresses that the deal will give an impetus to Sino-US military cooperation.

CMEA ADOPTS COOPERATION PROGRAMME

(Continued from page 1)

structure of electrical and power generation, as well as priority development of nuclear power production under the umbrella of each country's own resources.

The Committee regards it as its task to work out an agreement on cooperation in the development of a common production of automated production for engineering and the introduction of the long-term universal design—general and complete disarmament.

The success of the talks will depend on whether it will be possible, with their beginning, to freeze nuclear arsenals, prevent military encroachments into outer space and other acts capable of worsening the world situation, complicating difficulties in the issue of bridging the race in arms and their reductions.

This is exactly why the principle that we are small people and it's no business of us cannot be regarded as acceptable. It is quite encouraging that the participants of this principle are becoming fewer and fewer. On the contrary, the majority of states are leaning, as Andrei Gromyko said, towards an active support of these proposals which promote the cause of preventing war and strengthening peace. Apparently, prior to the forthcoming Soviet-American talks, everywhere, including Third World countries, support is growing in favour of preventing outer space militarization, freezing nuclear arms and cancelling plans to rearm the USA and Western Europe. Protest is growing against the continuing militarization of the Indian and Pacific oceans and the increasing military penetration of developing countries.

Doubtful venture

Bonn. The West German Government has taken a decision to build a new space project, Columbus, in the new American space port, Columbia.

This decision has caused criticism from the Social Democratic Party and the German Labour Union. They are pressing doubts about the Columbus project, pointing out that the project is a waste of money and that the project is a waste of money and that the project is a waste of money.

Tories may celebrate Victory day

London. The British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher recently stated before Parliament that the British Government was examining the question of how the fortieth anniversary of the victory over fascist Germany should be celebrated. In Britain, she admitted, there is a widespread belief that this event should be celebrated nationwide.

Local observers note that the Prime Minister's statement is a sharp change to the position of the government on this issue. Earlier, the Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Lady Yang, had announced that Britain would not take part in solemn occasions marking this anniversary because this could "hurt" the feelings of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and allegedly lead to the deterioration of history by the Soviet Union. Lady Yang's announcement, made, as the press notes, upon consultations with the Prime Minister and other members of Cabinet, has caused a sharp wave of indignation in Britain.

Solidarity in action

Helsinki. A group of Finnish volunteers has left for Nicaragua to help harvest coffee and construct a number of economic projects. Through their labour they are desirous to express the solidarity of Finnish youth organizations with the heroic struggle of the Nicaraguan people against the aggressive intrigues of the United States, and in support of the gains of the Sandinista revolution.

FACTS and EVENTS

Only ten per cent of Austrian college students have working class backgrounds, while the figure of those of peasant origin is only around five per cent, according to the Austrian press.

At present there are 1,369,000 unemployed aged between 16 and 25 in Spain, writes the Madrid newspaper "Ya". In other countries, young people are unemployed.

Chemical concern situated near the city of Stade in West Germany, daily dump into the Elbe river effluents with high toxic content that could kill scores of thousands of fish-trucks. The result, downstream the river is now like a sewer, just as the Rhine and the Main are.

ARSONISTS ON TRIAL

New York. Here, the head of a gang of arsonists, 32-year-old Edward Youpp, has been sentenced to a lengthy term in prison and a large fine.

The poor area of New York City, where arsonists arranged fires, instead of repairing old buildings, they prefer to build new ones, they are entitled to. That as a result of the insurance premium they pay, they are entitled to. That as a result of the insurance premium they pay, they are entitled to.



NATO troops are holding military manoeuvres code-named "Reinforcer-85" in the Federal Republic of Germany. The aim of the large-scale exercises is to streamline air-lifting of major army units and detachments into the Federal Republic of Germany, in case of emergency.

Arrival of American servicemen to the Federal Republic to participate in the war manoeuvres. Photo by AP-TASS

Science and technology

WEEDS OFF THE TRACKS

If grass grows on railway tracks it may impede the operation of automatic switches. Besides, the roots of plants wreck the bedding of the track. Therefore the grass must be destroyed but, naturally, it would be too expensive to weed the tracks. Usually herbicides are used for the purpose but they can penetrate ground waters, get into protective shelter belts along the track and damage them.

A special train has been developed in West Germany for accurate spraying of herbicides on the track. The equipment of the train makes possible individual dosage of spraying, depending on the density of the weeds. The liquid is supplied only to the arid of the weed width. A single charge of working capacities is enough to spray 400 km of track.

PLANT LICE

FLEE TO SAFETY

British agronomists have discovered that wild plants brought into the country from South America do not bear pests which cause great damage to cultivated varieties. Lice put on the leaves of the plant, or even brought closer to its leaves, fled to safety.

Research conducted on the leaves showed that there were two types of lice on them: the first discharges glue in which the pests get stuck, the others produce a volatile liquid which causes the plant to flee to safety.

Research conducted on the leaves showed that there were two types of lice on them: the first discharges glue in which the pests get stuck, the others produce a volatile liquid which causes the plant to flee to safety.

Apart from purely theoretical interest this discovery may also be of practical use.

Another Panama Canal?

Mexico City. Projects for the construction of another Panama Canal have been disturbing the minds of the politicians and engineers of a number of countries in Western Hemisphere.

Different plans for the construction of the new marine route quite urgently faced navigators after the appearance of super-tankers to which the present-day Panama Canal has become too narrow. One of the countries claiming that it can build a modern supercanal is Colombia. It seems the latter in passing from conversations to practical deeds. The country's President Belisario Betancur recently signed a decree which allows the construction of an interoceanic canal crossing the Colombian territory near the Panamanian border.

This project, the newspaper

says, is striking in its scale. It will allow the passage of any ship, including super-tankers. The main bed of the canal will lie along the two rivers, the Atreto and the Truando. Their beds are to be deepened down to the sea level, which will obviate the need for locks. The estimated cost of the construction of the canal is two thousand million dollars, and the work on the canal is to be completed by 2000.

In his decree, President Betancur stipulates that the canal will be under complete Colombian legal control and that foreign companies and private foreign nationals are forbidden to participate in the construction of the canal.

OF INTEREST

From the sea bottom

A scientific symposium will soon be held in the museum of Colobri region, Italy. It will be devoted to the conservation of ancient art objects which will be discussed by scientists with the aim of the investigation, a particularly large number of "orders" came to the winter months when the fire brigades refuse out of hand to go to the poor quarters. Allegedly, the poor should have their homes burnt without any help. More often, the arsonists were carried out in the depth of night, as a consequence of which the number of victims was very considerable. But this did not at all attract the attention of the authorities.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

TALKS AHEAD

Nothing has yet happened in Geneva, nothing except that a general understanding was reached there: there is only one way — to hold talks on limiting the arms race and eliminating weapons until they have eliminated people, writes publicist V. Kobayashi in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. But in a world where they have already forgotten good news in respect of curbing the arms race this is something.

It is remarkable that on understanding was reached in Geneva that the forthcoming arduous talks are seen as purposeful and totally new, based on consideration of the realities of the present world and its strategic impulses, the author stresses. Aware that in any talks there must be at least two sides, we, however, cannot help being satisfied that the Geneva accord reflects the purposeful, peace-loving policy of the USSR, a policy oriented towards limiting and stopping the arms race in all directions, a policy based on the principle of equality and equal security.

The road to adopting coordinated decisions, which should involve peace and nuclear weapons, will be difficult, if one assesses the situation soberly, the article stresses. Much will have to be altered practically from zero, because the Washington policy of the recent years disrupted and disorganized the entire process of limiting and reducing arms.

ACCORDING TO THE SCENARIO OF THE 'CONTACT' PROGRAMME

In IZVESTIYA, V. Kiselev narrates about another anti-Soviet provocation staged by the American authorities, that is about repeated attempts to "hand over" some "secret materials" to the USSR General Consulate in San Francisco. Then the Director of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation, J. W. Casper has tried the "game".

In the hour assigned to him by the scenario, the author writes, the FBI chief came out with a sensational declaration that allegedly a case has been disclosed about Soviet espionage, and an attempt of a criminal conspiracy has been interrupted.

What is this, a specially invented self-advertisement, or yet another anti-Soviet provocation? In all obviousness, it is both. The American press linked the case of a mystical engineer of the firm of Northrop, notes the author, with a permanently operating poison programme of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Contact". This programme, as has become known from press reports, envisages, among other things, organization of political provocations against representatives of the USSR and other states for the purpose of constant tampering up the atmosphere of enmity and any score in the country. The expenditure on the programme "Contact", according to "The Washington Post" newspaper, made up, on an impressive figure in the budget of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Not to spare money on provocations — such is the principle which people in Washington are guided by today. This means that they have put their foot in it at their own expense, writes the author.

WHERE IS RACISM BOLDER?

The criticism levelled by the American Senator Edward Kennedy against the system of apartheid existing in the Republic of South Africa has caused irritation among the leaders of the racist regime in Pretoria, writes V. Pustov in the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA daily. Neither has been to their liking the criticism mounted by the Senator at the policy of "constructive cooperation" with the Republic of South Africa carried out by the White House.

It is remarkable, notes the author, that the rulers of South Africa did not particularly deny the horrifying facts of the trampling of the elementary rights of the indigenous population underfoot as noted by the Senator. It was another thing that made the racist love-indignant: a visitor from what state has dared to attack the racial segregation? From that very state the spiritual unity with which they have always felt and approached for what? It is worth such things, it was decided in Pretoria, should not be tolerated. And now, moreover, the author, the minister for cooperation, development and education G. Viljoen has declared that on American political leader should not find it fit to criticize the racial policies in the Republic of South Africa, because the Whites in the Republic of South Africa, in his words, did not destroy the local population on such a scale as was done by the Whites in the United States of America or regards the Indians.

BORN BY FRIENDSHIP

In the past 20 years alone over 800 projects, among them 150 industrial enterprises constituting the basis of Mongolian industry, were built in that country with Soviet technical assistance, writes Mongolian economist U. Bandin in SOVSALIZHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in connection with the 30th anniversary of the signing of a treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual aid between the two nations. In each of the last two five-year periods the volume of Soviet technical and economic aid to Mongolia doubled compared with the preceding period, the author emphasizes.

diver took them... for drowned women. Together with his colleagues he took out the ancient bequest from the bottom and passed them over to ornithologists.

Albino-hedgehog

New animals were added to the Zoo of Magdeburg (the DDR) on the eve of the New Year. This was an inquisitive family of hedgehogs, presented to the Zoo by an amateur collector. Among the "hedgehogs" was a young albino hedgehog. According to the "Deutscher Land" these animals have little chance of survival in the wild. They are deprived of protective colour to enable them hide from predators.

Unusual exhibit

An unusual exhibit has been added to the collection of the London Postal Service Museum. This is the license plate from the locomotive of a train which became an object of the most famous and biggest theft in British history. It was decided to use the locomotive as a ramp-iron while the "historic" plate with the number 40180 was handed over to the museum by workers of the depot. In 1968, a gang of thieves stole this train, making away with 2.6 million pounds sterling.

PROFILES

ANATOLY EFROS



The premiere of "The Lower Depths", based on a famous play by Maxim Gorky, took place at Moscow's Drama and Comedy Theatre in Taganka on the eve of 1985. The audience awaited this first-night performance with impatience and interest. This premiere was also the debut of Anatoly Efros as art director of the theatre.

The name of Anatoly Efros is well known not only to the USSR but also to other countries where his productions represented the Soviet theatrical art at international festivals to which he was on several occasions invited to stage plays.

Special recognition is enjoyed by his interpretation of classical plays like "The Marriage of Figaro", "Othello" and "Romeo and Juliet" by Shakespeare, "A Month in the Country", "The Idiot" and "The Living Corpse" by Tolstoy. But it does not mean he forgets about modern plays. He works actively and successfully with Soviet playwrights. This was also the case of the beginning of his creative activities at the Central Children's Theatre, where he was a member of the famous company of Maria Knebel, Oleg Yefremov and playwright Viktor Rozov, and later of the Leningrad Komusov Theatre, where he discovered for the audiences the playwright Edward Raskovsky. Some time afterwards, at the drama theatre on Mayaya Dronnaya, he became the initiator of a new trend in the Soviet theatre-production — with the staging of "The Man from Outside" based on a play by Ignaty Dvoretzky. This trend is being widely developed today.

All the same, Efros shows special affection for classical plays. Therefore, it is quite natural that the director began his work in the new theatre with the production of "The Lower Depths" — a masterpiece by Gorky which he regards as Russian classical plays.

As it has always been the case, the audience and critics were expecting from Efros an entirely new approach to the current interpretation of this play of Gorky, at one time regarded as "history" but which has now become too commonplace.

The main thing is to try and look at this well-known play as if one is confronted with it for the first time, says Anatoly Efros. It is essential to view it in its original freshness and vigor... In fact, Gorky's "Lower Depths" is not a sluggish kingdom but a volcano the eruption of which is going to start at any moment... This is not simply a handful of degraded people huddled and vainly philosophizing; formidable forces are roaming in the "lower depths". So, together with actors we tried to overcome the literary and verbal texture of the play and through it to force our way into life, into action.

Today "The Lower Depths", says the director, is not a play about a night's lodging which was at one time in Moscow's Khitrov market. A considerable time has elapsed and today this work has acquired a broader and more philosophical significance. "The Lower Depths" is the whole world with its endless conflicts and its brotherhood, with its difficulties, tears and hopes, despair and dreams.

Unlike its numerous productions, which were only imitations of the famous play staged by the Art Theatre (its premiere took place more than 80 years ago), the work of Anatoly Efros is a qualitatively new interpretation of the classical play.

An organic merger of two different historic trends took place in this play: deeply psychological, to which the creative work of Efros belongs, and grotesque — which is confessed by the actors of the Theatre on Taganka. And this organic merger produced the desired effect. In fact, this confirmed the main principle of the director: in each work it is necessary to have a new "miraculous fusion" of various styles and trends. Efros is sure that such a synthesis actually yields "artistic progress". And he graphically proved the correctness of this theory in his work "The Lower Depths".

Natalya KUROVA
Photo by Valery Plotnikov

To the contest
in Zagreb

The third Vojvodina International contest of violinists is taking place in the Yugoslav city of Zagreb.

The Soviet Union is represented by two students of the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory — Ingrida Armonello and Yelena Svetitskova. In October last year, at the all-Union elimination audition in Petrozavodsk, they were recognized as the most interesting and brilliant violinists.

Both possess splendid virtuoso and musical abilities, interesting and artistic individualities as well as high technical standards. This is the first time Ingrida Armonello is participating in an international contest. In May 1984, Yelena Svetitskova participated at the J. S. Bach Competition held in the German Democratic Republic was awarded an honorary diploma.

In Zagreb the young women violinists will take up three concert programmes from the works of Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Ysaie and others.

The famous Soviet violinist, Professor Igor Berezov, is a member of the jury.

Boris IVASHKEVICH

FACTS
AND EVENTS

Exhibitions. An exhibition of pictures and reproductions by Nikolai Roerich as well as rare books from the library of Svyatoslav Roerich has opened at the Soviet cultural centre in Madras.

Photos. Mounted in Belgrade, the capital of Yugoslavia, is the exhibition, "The Gains of National Culture of the Soviet Union". The exhibition, made up of works of TASS photo correspondents, familiarizes visitors with known monuments of Soviet people's culture. The photographs tell about treasures of ancient Kremlin, places in Leningrad, architectural ensembles of Kiev and ancient cities of the Gold Ring around Moscow. Also represented are photographic reproductions of ancient Russian paintings.

Films. A Soviet-Bulgarian seven-part television film, "The Children of Captain Grant", is being filmed at the Odessa Film Studios jointly with Bayana Studios of Bulgaria. The film is based on a novel by the French writer Jules Verne and directed by Stanislav Govorukhin.

Concerts. A new concert hall has been opened in Tallinn with a performance of the well-known Estonian singer Hendrik Krumm, soloist with the Estonian Theatre. A cycle of solo concerts by the leading vocalist will be held in the restored church of Niguliste.

Legends and
songs of India

A series of Indian folk songs was held in the Riga House of Knowledge in Latvia. Sponsored by the USSR-India Society, it united musicians, writers, reciters and artists.

A Riga ensemble of young artists performed variations on the folk songs "The Breath of Thicket", "The Roots of Lotus", "Good and Evil". Parts of Indian legends were recited in the original. An exhibition of works by Latvian artists reflecting motifs from the Indian mythology was also mounted.

Austrian
conductor in USSR

I always take great pleasure in visiting the Soviet Union where music is treasured by the whole nation, says outstanding Austrian conductor Karl Böhm, who opened a series of concerts by foreign musicians in Moscow this year.

I first visited the USSR fifteen years ago and it has become an almost annual event ever since. I have excellent memories of the amazingly warmhearted and grateful audiences in Leningrad and Tallinn, Ljanyovsk and Riga, Kazan and Vilnius. I have also visited Novosibirsk and Irkutsk where the heavy Siberian frosts were melted by the friendliness of audiences.

I have acquired many friends

among my Soviet colleagues as well as the great from Vienna. They include Dmitry Kitayenko, a talented Moscow musician who studied in my class about twenty years ago at the Vienna Academy of Music. Conductors from many Union republics also studied there in subsequent years. I never forget Chusheva, Maria Janova and Valdis Marjanovs. Now when I come to the Soviet Union I take every opportunity to meet them.

This time Karl Böhm has given concerts with the USSR Symphony Orchestra, playing Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 and Symphony No. 4 by Brahms. He will also give concerts in Khabarovsk and Leningrad.

Repin's unknown canvases



• "Self-Portrait".

An exhibition of works by the well-known Russian painter Ilya Repin is still going on at the Tretyakov Gallery (11 Luvrinskaya Lane, Moscow).

Canvases previously unknown to the Soviet art lovers have been displayed by Finnish museums and private collections.

The Russian artist was associated with that country by friendly ties. He closely knew many Finnish artists, who used to visit the studio in Kuopio, where Repin spent his last years.

In 1920 he donated some of his works to the National Art Gallery of Finland, the Ateneum Museum.

Seven paintings, and 21 graphic sheets can be seen by the visitors and their guests. The small collection of works essentially the entire creative road of the artist.



• "Nordmann-Severova on the Shore of the Gulf of Finland".

WHAT'S ON?

January 19-21

THEATRES

Belshel Theatre (Sverdlov St.). 19 — Verdi, "La Traviata" (opera). 20 (even) — Rimsky-Korsakov, "The Snow Maiden" (opera). 20 (even) — Shostakovich, "The Golden Age" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 19 — Tchaikovsky, "The Queen of Spades" (opera). 20 (even) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 20 (even) — Puccini, "La Bohème" (opera). 21 — Sidelnikov, "Stepan Razin" (ballet).

Operetta Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.). 19 — Pichkin, "Wedding With the General". 20 (even) — Ziv, "Seven Little Soldiers". 20 (even) — Suppe, "Die schöne Galathea". 21 — Felsman, "Let the Guitar Play".

Chamber Musical Theatre (17 Leningradsky Prospekt). 19, 20 — Volkov, "Life and Remember".

FILMS

Leo Tolstoy (to 2 parts, Gorky Film Studios).

BUSINESS

100 PARTNERS FOR A COMPANY

The Sobran-Chemichandel GmbH society established by Soviet Soyuzkhimexport and a number of West German companies started itself well in West Germany.

The 10 years have seen a tremendous expansion of our business, said Director General V. Timolev, addressing a press conference in Moscow. Our sales since 1979 alone have gone up 16-fold. The company has business links virtually with all chemical producers in West Germany, including Hoechst, BASF, Bayer, etc., as well as with companies in Britain, Belgium, Finland, Canada and other countries. The range of chemicals offered by the company includes

more than a thousand items — ammonia, methanol, high and low pressure polyethylene, inorganic chemicals, source materials for synthetic fibres, etc., coming from the USSR.

Simultaneously the company buys for the Soviet Union West German weedkillers, varnishes and paints, chemicals, etc. The most important feature of 1984 is that our exports exceeded imports.

At the present time, A. Pit-moyor, its commercial director, said, the links between Sobran and Soyuzkhimexport are being built around a long-range basis. The Soviet chemicals sell well and we believe that the demand will continue to grow.

ESAB OPENS
OFFICE IN MOSCOW

ESAB of Sweden, doing business in welding equipment, has opened its permanent office in Moscow.

Interviewed by an MNI correspondent, Bengt Eriksson, president, said that the company entered the Soviet market in the early 1950s, and since then has shipped in the USSR a considerable amount of equipment for various applications. Over the last 10 years alone ESAB signed 400 million Swedish kroner worth of Soviet contracts.

The biggest deals were complete welding sets for thick-walled round parts ordered by Avtopromimport. These units worth some 100 million Swedish kroner were installed at the Atomash factory in Volgograd, the Russian Federation. The company also supplied units for welding anchor chains and chains for mining equipment. In addition, it has been regularly supplying electrodes and welding wires.

The company has bought a Soviet welding licence and continues to import since 1983 Soviet thyristors and diodes, via Energoimport. Recently, the company has come to terms with Energoimport and the USSR Ministry of Electrical Engineering as to the production in the USSR of 140-Ampere

welding transformers using the company's know-how. ESAB is ready to buy as many as 10 thousand such transformers for its uses.

Of late ESAB has been doing much to establish and expand scientific cooperation with the USSR. Especially promising may become its joint ventures with the Central Research Institute of Heavy Engineering involving the design of advanced welding equipment.

Contacts
and contacts

© V/O Machineimport of the USSR has ordered a major batch of industrial and pit electric locomotives from the GDR. They will be used in the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The contract worth 37 million rubles is to be implemented before the end of 1985 via Schenker-fahrzeuge Export-Import, GDR.

© Proving grounds were set up at the request of Japanese companies in the Soviet Far East to test new technology. The Kamatsu company, jointly with Soviet specialists, will test a new earth-moving machine in adverse climatic conditions. It

WEATHER

January 19-21

In Moscow city and region,

cloudy, with clear spells and light snow. Night temperatures at 8°, 10°C and 3°, 8°C during the day. Later temperatures will drop to 10°, 15°C at night (to -20°C in places) and 7°, 11°C during the day. Wind veering to E, S-W mps.

Transport hours

Metro 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 5 kopeks.

Trolleybuses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 4 kopeks.

Buses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks.

Trams 5.30 a.m. to 1.20 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks.

Tram 24-hour service. Twenty kopeks on the meter.

Ordering a cab 24-hour service Telephone 225-00 00.

Communal cabs (over 40 routes in the city) 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 15 kopeks.

Foreign exchange quotations as of January 16, 1985

Currency Quotations in rubles

Austrian schilling 100 3.95

Canadian dollar 100 66.56

English pound sterling 100 99.38

Finnish markka 100 13.34

French franc 100 9.88

FRG mark (Deutsche mark) 100 27.81

Indian rupee 100 6.90

Italian lire 10,000 4.52

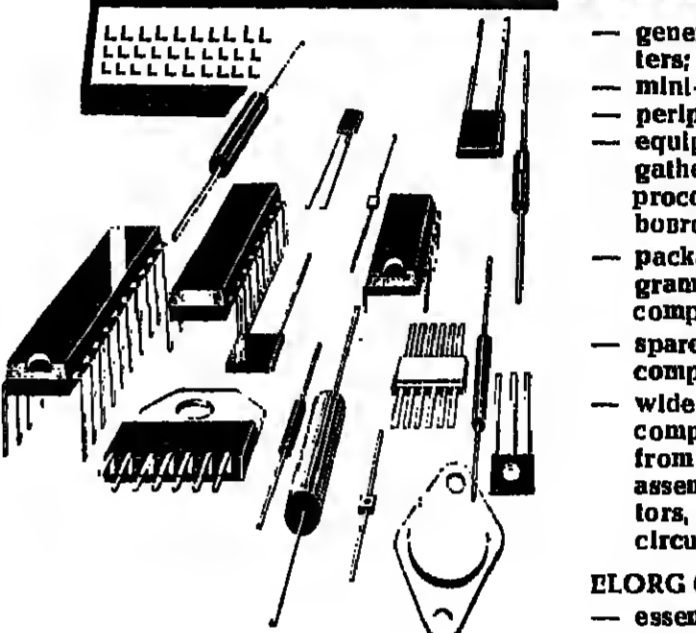
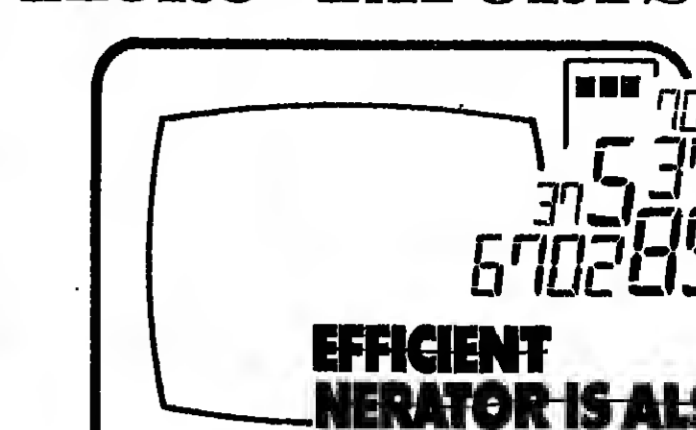
Japanese yen 1,000 3.46

Spanish peseta 1,000 5.03

Swedish krona 100 9.70

US dollar 100 87.95

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has replaceable scoops and is intended to work rock and frozen ground. Specialists from the

two countries intend to obtain initial results of the tests in the summer of 1985 and to use them as a basis for the development of new earth-moving technology.

Soviet-Afghan trade grows

Trade contacts between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) are progressing steadily and successfully. Afghanistan takes third place among the developing countries (after India and Argentina) in Soviet foreign trade relations by the volume of transactions. The USSR mainly imports commodities of Afghan enterprises built with Soviet technical assistance over the years.

The Soviet Union is Afghanistan's first partner in trade. It

also exports to about 60 per cent of Afghanistan's foreign trade. Deliveries from the USSR cover a considerable part of Afghanistan's requirements in machinery, equipment, means of transport, etc.

Afghan-Soviet trade is built on the principle of equality, with due account taken of reciprocal interests and advantages, says Mohammad Khan Jalal, DRA Minister of Commerce. Its growth is beneficial for both countries.

Philately

The USSR Ministry of Communications has issued a set of five postage stamps devoted to the history of Russian fire engines. The stamps, of 3 and 5 kopek denomination, show 19th-century horse-driven carts. The stamps, which cost 10, 15 and 20 kopeks, show fire engines that were in use at the beginning of the 20th century.

Bucket brigades in stamps

